

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A power control method for a set top box, the set top box having an ON power mode and a STAND BY power mode and being in communication with a television set, the method comprising;

monitoring a parameter of an operating signal associated with the television set,

comparing the value of the parameter with predetermined values at which the set top box is desired to be either operative (ON power mode) or inoperative (STAND BY power mode) when a predetermined value of the parameter is detected, evaluating the current power mode of the set top box and if this is not the desired power mode, initiating a change in operation of the set top box from its current power mode to the desired power mode.
2. (original) A power control method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the operating signal is the electricity supply to the TV set.

3. (original) A power control method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the parameter is the current of the electricity supply.
4. (original) A power control method as claimed in claim 3 wherein a predetermined value corresponds to a minimum above which the TV set is known to be switched on.
5. (original) A power control method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the operating signal is the TV signal displayed on the TV set and the parameter is the frequency at which the signal is received.
6. (original) A power control method as claimed in claim 5 wherein a predetermined value is the frequency or frequency band at which the STB receives services from the service provider whose broadcasts the STB is configured to receive.
7. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the operating signal is the line scan of images displayed by the TV set and the predetermined value is the presence or absence of a scan line.

8. (original) A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the line scan incorporates a signature unique to a broadcast service provider whose services are received through the STB.
9. (original) A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the predetermined value is presence or absence of the signature.
10. (original) An apparatus for controlling the power mode of a set top box (STB) when in communication with a TV set, the apparatus comprising;
- an electrical socket configured to receive the power plug of a TV set, the socket being electrically connectable to a mains electricity supply and including means for sensing changes in one or more characteristic parameters of the electricity supply passing through the socket and means for communicating the sensed changes to a controller of the STB.
11. (currently amended) An apparatus for controlling the power mode of a set top box (STB) when in communication with a TV set, the apparatus comprising;
- a STB having a controller and an RF cable able to communicate with the oscillator/mixer of a TV set and with the controller of the STB, whereby to monitor the frequency or

frequency band to which the oscillator/mixer is tuned, the controller being configured to perform the method of ~~any one of claims 1, 5 or 6~~claim 1.

12. (currently amended) An apparatus for controlling the power mode of a set top box (STB) when in communication with a TV set, the apparatus comprising;

a STB and a line scanner configured for monitoring the line scan of a cathode ray tube type TV set and able to communicate with a controller of the STB, whereby to monitor the line scan of images displayed on a screen of the TV set, the controller being configured to perform the method of ~~any one of claims 1, 7, 8 or 9~~claim 1.

13. (currently amended) A computer program which when operated on a computer causes the computer to perform the method of ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~claim 1.

14. (original) A set top box for a television incorporating a controller which includes a computer programmed with the computer program of claim 13.